

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 32-45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agarwal et al., U.S. Patent No.: 5,958,010, in view of Bruins et al., U.S. Patent No.: 6,308,148, and further in view of Combar et al., U.S. Patent No.: 6,470,386. Applicant respectfully disagrees with such rejection.

Specifically, the invention in this application was conceived of and/or reduced to practice at least as early as September 20, 1997, which predates the effective date of the Combar reference. See attached declaration and exhibit.

A notice of allowance or a proper prior art showing of each of the claimed features, in combination with the remaining claim elements, is respectfully requested.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 505-5100. For payment of the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1351 (Order No. XACTP014A). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Zilka
Registration No. 41,429

P.O. Box 721120
San Jose, CA 95172-1120
408-505-5100